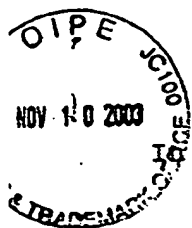


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ASA-823



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

M. MIYATAKE et al

Serial No. 09/412,786

Group Art Unit: 2132

Filed: October 5, 1999

Examiner: T. Peeso

For: METHOD FOR DETECTING INVALID ELECTRONIC
STORAGE MEDIA AND CARD SYSTEM USING THE METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)
UNDER § 1.97 AND § 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop DD
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED

NOV 14 2003

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

1. This IDS should be considered:

(a) when filed within three months of the filing date of the present application, or within three months of the filing date of the National Stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs last;

(b) when filed before the mailing date of either a Final Rejection under § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first and when 1(a) does not apply. For this purpose, there is included herein either a certification in section 4 below (included when indicated by a marked box), or a fee of \$180.00 (a Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed, or if not see section 5 below);

(c) when filed prior to the payment of the Issue Fee, when 1(a)-(b) do not apply, and when a certification is included in section 4 below (included when indicated by a marked box); then the Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) and request(s) consideration of this IDS, and provided herewith is a fee of \$180.00 (a Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the petition fee, or if not see section 5 below).

2. When 1(a)-(c) do not apply, then it is requested that this IDS be placed in the file.

3. Listing of the information submitted is on the attached Form PTO-1449, which forms a part of this IDS. A the listed document is enclosed.

4. German Offenlegunsschrift DE 37 36190 was first cited by the Examining Division of the European Patent Office on September 3, 2003 in a corresponding European Patent Application. An English language abstract of the published German application is enclosed. Also enclosed is a corresponding U.S. Patent application, application serial no. 07/110,398, that was abandoned and is therefore not prior art. However, the '398 application provides English language descriptions of the elements shown in the figures of the German document.

5. If a fee or additional fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee or additional fee that may be required and credit any excess to Deposit Account No. 50-1417. A duplicate of this sheet is attached.

6. The required explanation of relevancy can be taken from the English language Abstract of the German document.

7. If the PTO determines that part(s) of the required content is inadvertently omitted, then it is requested that the Applicant(s) be given additional time and specific identification of such omission(s) to enable full compliance.

Respectfully submitted,



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